

SEP 12 2006

Docket No. 742425-26
Serial No. 10/774,455
Page 8

REMARKS

Further to Applicant's filing of the Request for Continued Examination on June 15, 2006, it is respectfully requested that the foregoing amendments be entered and fully considered by the Examiner in the continued examination of the present application.

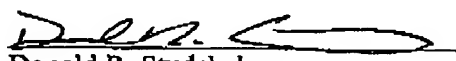
As can be seen from the foregoing amendments, claims 2, 4-10, 12, 14 and 15 have been canceled, claims 1, 3 and 11 have been amended and new claims 16-20 have been added. Accordingly, claims 1, 3, 11 and 16-20 are presently pending in the instant application and examination of the merits of such claims is earnestly solicited.

Further, Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended to Applicant's representative during the discussions relating to the suspension of examination in connection with the previous filing of the Request for Continued Examination and the communication to that effect dated July 31, 2006.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the foregoing amendments be entered, that claims 1, 3, 11 and 16-20 be indicated as being allowable over the prior art of record and that the application again be passed to issue.

Should the Examiner believe a conference would be of benefit in expediting the prosecution of the instant application, he is hereby invited to telephone counsel to arrange such a conference.

Respectfully submitted,


Donald R. Studebaker
Reg. No. 32,815

Nixon Peabody LLP
401 9th Street N.W.
Suite 900
Washington, D. C. 20004
(202) 585-8000